



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

## ALEXANDRIA:

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 14, 1859.

A number of the principal merchants of Baltimore have signed a memorial to the Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, stating that the high rates of freight charged by the Company upon the coal transported to Baltimore, has already produced a serious effect upon the commerce of that port. In this memorial it is stated further, that the actual difference in the cost of the same coal, delivered free on board vessels at Alexandria and Baltimore, at the present time, is sixty-two cents per ton in favor of Alexandria, the memorialists represent as their opinion, founded upon long practical experience in the coal trade, that unless the Company shall decide promptly to reduce the rates of freight on this article to such a figure as will enable them to offer coal to consumers at prices approximating to those of Alexandria, this valuable branch of trade, now so much reduced, will soon become extinct in the city of Baltimore. This memorial concludes, as follows:—

"While the coal trade is being taken from Baltimore by the present excessive rate of freight, it is being made permanent at Alexandria by furnishing a powerful impetus to the completion of the Loudoun & Hampshire Railroad, which, but for the coal trade, would be considered impracticable by capitalists, but with this trade as a basis, this railroad, which brings the Western sections of our State and the entire coal fields some forty miles nearer tide water than by your route, is now finding great favor among the people and Legislature of Virginia, and is already being subscribed to by our own capitalists, who have invested their means in the coal mines of this State."

A very active political contest is going on in Caroline County, between Messrs. George Tyler and John Boutwell, for the House of Delegates. Both are Democrats. A discussion took place, on Monday, on general politics, between Mr. Johnson, of Richmond, and Mr. Thomas N. Welsh. A Democratic meeting had under consideration a proposition to hold a District Convention for nominating a candidate for Congress, but it adjourned, in considerable confusion, without appointing delegates. Mr. DeJarnette is opposing Judge Caske, in the District.

Later advices from Rio confirm the intelligence that the Paraguay difficulty has been peacefully settled. The bases of arrangements were completed Feb. 1. Their nature, however, had not been divulged. At Buenos Ayres apprehensions were prevalent that one consideration of Gen. Urquiza's services in mediating the North American quarrel, would be the unlimited aid of Lopez in an expedition against Buenos Ayres.

The overland mail from San Francisco with advices to the 18th ult., has arrived at St. Louis. The steamer Uncle Sam had returned to San Francisco, after landing a portion of the sixth infantry at the mouth of the Colorado. Captain Hoffman was to commence active operations against the Mohave Indians about the 20th of March. Business was brisk at San Francisco, and the miners were doing well.

The Union newspaper is hereafter to be called "The Constitution"—the first issue under the new title, and with Geo. W. Bowman as editor and proprietor, having appeared yesterday. It will be "a thoroughly Democratic paper," it says, and, we suppose, will support and be the organ of the present Administration.

The Swedish brig Lukerman, on Rotterdam, which arrived at New York on Saturday, reports that they have been three weeks on the coast, with heavy westerly gales, having had a pilot on board for eight days. On the "Banks" they saw a large number of icebergs, and much field ice.

The Massachusetts Legislature has before it a bill making a single case of drunkenness a crime to be punished with imprisonment. The liquor law does not stop intemperance, for we see that eight thousand persons were arrested in Boston last year for drunkenness.

"The Constitution" says that the power of appointing the U. S. Commissioners is vested in the U. S. Circuit Courts, and that the President cannot interfere with the Commissioner in Philadelphia, for his late improper conduct.

The advices from British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, are cheering. The British government was making improvements and encouraging foreign immigration. The reception of the President's message at Guaymas had created much excitement.

The report from California that the Vanderbilt line of Pacific steamers had stopped running, is unfounded. The Northern Light, one of the boats, sailed from New York on Monday, for Aspinwall, with about 700 passengers.

An extensive fire has occurred in the western portion of Cuba, consuming a large amount of sugar and other property. The loss is not estimated, but a dispatch from Savannah says, that at least 20,000 boxes of sugar were destroyed.

The slave brig Tyrant has been condemned at Key West, the salvage amounting to forty per cent, and the remaining sixty per cent. was to be divided among the United States revenue officers.

The Evergreens Cemetery church in New York, erected at a cost of \$6,500, eight years ago, was burned on Saturday, from a defect in the flue. It was insured for \$3,500.

The King of Naples is said to be quite ill, and the heir apparent quite lively in view of his probable accession to the throne.

In the Sickles trial, on Tuesday, the Defence introduced the testimony of John J. McElhonne, and Jonah D. Hoover, to prove the friendship that existed between Key and Sickles, up to the time of the discovery of the matter which caused the difficulty. Rev. Mr. Pyne testified as to observing the strange and altered manner of Sickles on the day before the killing of Key. Hon. R. J. Walker detailed the wild and distracted manner of the accused, when he went to the house, after the occurrence. He describes him as almost insane; in a state of phrenzy. [While Mr. Walker was giving in his testimony, Mr. Sickles gave way to his feelings, and wept and sobbed aloud. He was conducted from the Court room, where he remained for several minutes, when he was brought back more composed. It was a most affecting scene. Many in the Court room wept.] Bridget Duffey, a servant in Sickles' house, gives an account of what she saw the night before the killing, between Sickles and his wife, of the great grief of the parties, and of her signing or witnessing a paper which Mrs. Sickles had written. The Defence then handed to the Court the written confession of Mrs. S., signed by herself, using her maiden name, and attested by two witnesses, in which she acknowledges her guilt, and gives, as she says, without menace or threats, a detailed account of her criminal intercourse with Mr. Key. To the reception of this paper as evidence, the District Attorney objected, and pending argument on the subject, the Court adjourned.

The various institutions which hold their public anniversaries in the city of New York in May of each year, are just completing their annual statements, and making other necessary preparations. Thought is yet too early to announce the results with exactness in every case, sufficient is known to indicate that it has been a year of prosperity to most of them, with augmented receipts.

An epidemic has prevailed for some weeks among the horses attached to several passenger railway lines in Philadelphia, called by some persons the "lung fever," and by others the "pink eye disease." In some cases the eyes are affected, and in others the lungs, but the symptoms of fever exist in both stages. A number have died and many more are disabled.

A bill to "suppress licentiousness" has just passed the Assembly of New York, which gives power to the mayor and common council to enact an ordinance for the general regulation of all houses of prostitution, including a registry of the names of their inmates. All the leading physicians of the city are said to be in favor of the bill.

The Fredericksburg Herald says:—"A Sturgeon weighing upwards of nine hundred pounds was caught in the Rappahannock river last week, near the steamboat wharf at Fredericksburg. The sturgeon measured eight feet seven inches in length."

A beautiful young woman, residing in a house of ill-fame, in New York, drank two shillings' worth of ether, on Sunday night, to assuage the touch-ache. Next morning she was found dead in her bed, and the supposition is that she ether killed her.

On Saturday night, several inches of snow fell at St. Louis, and on the next morning ice was three inches thick. The fruit was seriously injured.

The rumor of the death of Billy Bowlegs, the famous Indian Chief, is confirmed. He died on the 11th ult.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Lord Lyons today presented to the President his credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty. In doing so, he gave utterance to the most profound feelings of friendship entertained by his government for that of the United States, and expressed the hope that the ties of amity would be drawn still closer. The President warmly reciprocated the sentiments announced, and the interview was of a more than usually cordial character.

The impression prevails here that ex-Judge Barrett, of Pennsylvania, will be appointed superintendent of public printing.

Much more business than usual is now being transacted in the Interior Department, occupying the attention of the Secretary sometimes till midnight.

The receipts at the Patent Office last month are stated to be about \$14,000 over the expenses.

The case of O'Flinn, the postmaster at Detroit, about which there has been so much interest, has been investigated so far, that it is thought he will resign.

The Republicans of this city intend firing 100 guns to-morrow afternoon, in honor of Jefferson's birthday and of the republican victories in the recent State and municipal elections.

Ex-Congressman Grovesbeck, of Ohio, according to the representations of his most intimate friends, has been offered, but declined, the appointment of Commissioner of Patents.

Although the government has nothing more than telegraphic accounts concerning the recognition of the Juarez government by Mr. McLane, it gives full credit to the intelligence, and enough has transpired to warrant the assertion that Senor Matu will be received as minister to the United States on his return to Washington.

It is understood here that the reason why Mr. Forsyth was not sent back to Mexico as United States minister, was that by his recognition of the Juarez government he rendered himself unpopular with the Liberal party.

The resignation of Gen. Bowman, as Superintendent of Public Printing, has been given in, and is to take effect from the first of May next. The President has indicated an intention to appoint a Pennsylvanian to supply the vacancy.

It is understood that none of the persons whose names have been reported hence as prospective editors of the Constitution are really to be so.

Hon. John Letcher is here to-night. Mr. Gurgin having declined to meet Mr. Letcher at his northwest appointments, and made separate appointments in the east, the latter has abandoned them, and they will meet on Thursday at Louisiana Court House.

Undoubtedly a naval demonstration will be made against Nicaragua, unless a radical change of policy be early adopted by that government towards our own.

The Wheat Crop.

Recent visits to the counties of Caroline, Spotsylvania, Stafford and King George, enables us to say that for the most part the growing wheat looks thriving and vigorous. But all calculation as to what the crop will be, is utterly futile at this time. There are a thousand-and-one trials through which it is yet to pass.

The Latest Foreign News.

Correspondence of N. Y. Comm. Advertiser.

LONDON, March 29.—European and domestic affairs remain without alteration, but the French Bourse does not indicate that the recovery of confidence is making progress; while on the London Stock Exchange the announcement of a further demand of about £4,000,000 for India, coming just after the news that a Russian loan of £11,000,000 is about to be introduced, has created a general disposition to flatness.

Consols, therefore, have entirely lost the improvement that was witnessed on the intelligence of the Italian question being about to be settled by a Congress. They then advanced to 93, but yesterday sold at 92. There has since, however, been a little rally, and the closing price this evening was 92.

A considerable degree of depression which prevailed yesterday at Paris was attributed to the prevalence of "disquieting rumors," but nothing has transpired as to their character or foundation. They have doubtless originated in the visit of Count Cavour, who has had audiences of the Emperor in which he has endeavored to have struggled hard against the contemplated adjustment. With the leading powers, however, now all committed to maintain the faith of treaties, there seems little danger of a rupture being brought about, except by new means and on a new field. The utmost that Sardinia can hope at present is that she may be admitted to join in the general deliberations, but on that head nothing appears yet to have been decided.

The date of meeting of the Congress is a subject for most contradictory assertions. According to some reports it will be delayed till July, but the common impression is that all the parties will have assembled by the first week in May, at the latest. Baden Baden is now mentioned as the locality that will most probably be selected.

The Emperor of Russia is represented to be honestly in favor of a sound and pacific adjustment in consonance with European good faith and among the politicians at Berlin, who are still accustomed to look to St. Petersburg with considerable reverence, there is proportionate confidence that everything will go smoothly.

The discussion on the reform bill still draws its uninteresting course. Every one now seems to expect a small majority against Ministers, but at the same time it is by no means certain that in that event they will either resort to a dissolution or resign. Lord John Russell could not form a strong or popular government and Lord Palmerston is thought to desire delay. Under these circumstances the Derby Cabinet may probably accept defeat should it come, and promise in consequence to bring in a new measure on the subject of the reform of the House of Commons.

The Liverpool cotton market this week opened with activity and firmness. The wheat market is without recovery.

Change in the British Legation.—Reception of Lord Lyons.

We understand that on Monday last Lord Napier presented his letter of recall, and took leave of the President in his character of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty, and that the customary expressions of good will were interchanged.

Yesterday Lord Lyons was introduced by the Secretary of State as the successor of Lord Napier, and addressed the President as follows:

My President: My first duty in addressing you, as the Envoy of Her Britannic Majesty, is, in obedience to Her Majesty's express command, to assure you of her esteem and regard for you, and of her hearty wishes for the welfare of the Great Nation of which you are Chief Magistrate. Her Majesty has nothing more at heart than to maintain the friendship and good understanding so happily existing between the Government of Great Britain and that of the United States.

The vast importance of the relations between the two countries would cause me to tremble in entering upon the duties of the highly honorable post to which the confidence of my sovereign has called me. I am sustained, however, by the conviction that the good will and kind feeling which animate the people of the United States, and the personal friendship which must exist between you and me, will induce the humble efforts which I shall constantly make to merit your approbation to give effect to the cordial and friendly intentions of the Queen and Her Majesty's government.

I have now, sir, the honor to place in your hands the letter of credence which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to intrust to my care.

Upon receiving the letter of credence from Lord Lyons, the President made the following remarks:

I give you a cordial welcome, as the diplomatic representative of your sovereign, to the government of the United States. I receive with much gratification the expression of Her Majesty's hearty wishes for the welfare of the United States, as well as of her earnest desire to maintain the friendship and good understanding now so happily existing between our respective governments. These assurances, proceeding from a sovereign who is universally esteemed by the people of the United States, and by none of them more than myself, are calculated to produce the best effect on the relations between the two countries. On our part, these sentiments are cordially reciprocated towards Her Majesty and the British people. You do not, you cannot, appreciate too highly the importance to the people both of Great Britain and the United States, of maintaining the most friendly and commercial and political intercourse with each other. This desirable end will be best secured by a frank and manly diplomacy so congenial to the character of the two nations, and so far as known to us, to your own character.

A Monster Dead.

The King of Dahomey is no more. He was a famous monarch, too, in his time, and after his own peculiar fashion; for he made treaties with France and Portugal, which solemn compacts he naturally violated or evaded, whenever his interests required; and then too, he maintained a body-guard of ebony colored Amazons. He was a great warrior also, for once a year, or so, he sent out a detachment of his warriors, who, after having ravaged the lands and villages of the neighboring kingdoms, for the purpose of capturing men, women, and children, for the purpose of selling them to the traders who came to the African coast. But he constantly visited the African coast, his funeral obsequies must be celebrated with honor and the loyalty of his loving subjects, that they sacrificed eight hundred negroes—mostly prisoners—to his memory and name! His son and heir, King Gexo II, was so overwhelmed with affliction at the death of his exemplary parent, that the Court Calendar, or Court gossip, published at the royal capital of Dahomey, records that to white away his sorrow and cheer his bereaved heart, he had sallied forth with his warriors on a grand sleigh-ride.—*Bull. Am.*

A short time ago a schoolmaster was wanted for a Western village. A pompous little fellow, one of the applicants, being asked to give a philosophical reason why cream was put with tea, replied, "because the globular particles of the cream render the tea angles of the tea more oblate." He was elected.

Shams.

This is emphatically the age of cheap money. We are all running away after the phantom of wealth, and to obtain the best, we are content with the nearest cheap imitation of it. We have abandoned realities, and are grasping after their shadows. We say, what is the use of paying a great price for a sterling article, when we can get something that looks just like it for a little one? So we take the sham and reject the genuine, and then pat ourselves on the back for our shrewdness and economy. We have got the glitter, who cares for the gold? The old proverb is rusty and behind the age. We have run so far ahead of its teaching in our fast way of doing things, as to have discovered that it is the glitter which makes the value of the metal, and not the solidity and purity of the gold within. We have become wise as serpents, according to the improved theory of wisdom—getting the most for our money, rather than the best; and it is to be feared we are not always quite as harmless as doves in our way of getting it, for our wisdom savors a little of the quality of that which was brought to bear upon our mother Eve. There is a terrible twang of deception about it.

In our houses, with fine brown-stone fronts made of brick, and covered with painted and sanded plaster, marked off into chain blocks; we enter them through oaken or walnut doors made of grained pine, and pass through vestibules floored with marble mosaic made of baked clay, and sit down on veneered sofas before saggiola marble chimney pieces and mantles made of enameled iron. Over such mantels we place mirrors in gilt frames, enriched with elaborate carving made of composition pressed in moulds from the hands of some Italian or French hang-hundred-dollar water color drawings, that is to say, printed imitations which cost five—and in another, handsome book-cases with mahogany faces and pine bodies, filling the lower shelves with books, and the upper with richly bound books of wood, of assorted sizes.

Just now, pictures are fashionable; so we go to auction and buy "valuable oil paintings," which are made at short notice, by the quantity, and "carefully selected," and sold at prices varying from ten to twenty-five dollars, including an elegant gilt frame, and a picture of some sort, but with any uncomprehending visitings of conscience about the smallness of the price for that is the artist's business, not ours; and we call in our friends to admire them, (preserving a discreet silence as to their cost,) which they do with such ardor, that we begin to feel a little uncertain whether they are not poking fun at us.

The next time we get into an omnibus the uncertainty is removed—for as we glance at the small gallery of art ranged above the seats, we find a picture of a man in a "truthful" and "not the most agreeable kind of recognizing the hand of the artist, (or one of the same school,) who executed the remarkable specimens which decorate our walls. We find that our bargains have introduced to us an extensive circle of the very indifferent acquaintances of their own class, which we feel disposed to cultivate, and we begin to suspect that, if anybody has been cheated, it is not the painter.

We scatter marble statues made of painted iron along our parlors, and walk in and out of them, and on our feet self-compressing gaiters, with rows of decorative buttons in the front, and convey the idea that they are fastened in the legitimate way. We display massive seal rings and fob chains, and carry ponderous looking pencils, which are marketed for the space the small quantity of gold in their hollow bulk is made to fill.

Our daughters wear expensive point lace ornaments, (we do not know their names, nor do we know much about point lace, except that it is some sort of net work of fabulous cost, made of some more economical material, and washed in some way which is not to be named, and which is the genuine article. They wear Canton crane shawls which John Chinaman never saw, and Cashmere shawls manufactured at Paisley, and India silks that never passed the Equator, and furs that would astonish the animals whose names they bear, if they could see them. When they give grand weddings, displaying bridal gills, sets of gold and silver spoons, forks, fruit knives, tea services, neck lace bracelets, knee-touching tributes of affection from dear friends who are on our visiting list, and have been invited to the ceremony; and which, after the parade is over, are carefully packed up, and quietly returned to the jeweller from whom we hired them! (This sham is going a little out of fashion since some indiscreet person exposed it.) But they still wear sham flowers in their costly bonnets—that is in the little straw or velvet caps they used to wear their hair when they had shaved off their braids of hair from their heads in front of the aforesaid bonnets.

We see the performers at the opera through the opera boxes, hired at twenty-five cents a night, with a deposit for their safe return, as negligently as if they belonged to us. We ride about in carriages hired by the year, coachman with velvet hatband, big buckle and a large caped coat included, all got up in the most elaborate style. We build churches with stone fronts and brick sides, and decorated on the outside with iron brackets and cornices made of painted wood or clay, and on the inside with wall paper panels and painted recesses, and pilasters and mouldings, half of whose shadows are laid flat the wrong way by daylight, and by gaslight become "confusion worse confounded." We stick all manner of plaster gnomes over the walls and ceiling.

We point a dead dove behind the pulpit, and then neutralize the effect by putting a soda against the wall where it is painted, so that when the preacher sits down, he has the only contradictory aspect of resting his head on a pulpit which is supposed to be ten feet in his rear, and maintaining all the while his upright position. It confuses our ideas of proportion and perspective dreadfully. We also found our notions of architectural proportion, once treated with the most unmerciful contempt, by an organ front in a new church, which was intended to be something beyond the reach of criticism. This organ was so designed as to require a column at each flank, supporting an entablature across the top of the front pipes. To effect this, the builder had taken two Corinthian columns, such as were placed under the galleries, and as they were too long by several feet, had sawed off the shafts to the requisite length, leaving them as broad and square as Egyptian columns, and then put them in their places, spitting by the horrible mutilation and deformity the whole design, which, properly carried out, would have been good enough.

Well, when we have built a church, we want our comfortable seats in it as an express train, with the management of which we have nothing to do, all booked and ticketed, and leaving the responsibility of our arrival in Heaven to the pastor, whom we regard as a sort of engine-driver, and to the elders who take the place of conductors, and whose business it is to put us through safely, with as little jarring or disturbance of our nap as possible, to the last station on the higher bank of the final river; and though we have been warned that each man must cross this river alone, as best he can, we nod on cozily and comfortably, trusting that some way will be provided somehow or other for ferrying us over, or that the pastor (that is, the engine driver) will see to it, and at any rate there is no use in bothering about it until we get somewhere near the station.

Then we are charitable—very. We give money to every lazy or drunken rascal, or woman with a lot of hired children, that stops us in the street, and smashes them with a great deal of good advice about going to work, &c.—only we don't show them where or how to go—because our hearts are so easily touched by the appearance of misery that we can't, we really can't resist; that is, it is a great deal easier to help people to homilies and three cent pieces, than follow them to their homes and see into the truth of their story, and put them in a way to help themselves. We show the most laudable alacrity in assisting all benevolent enterprises, and get ourselves to preside at meetings held to organize them, with the greatest enthusiasm. We are full of good advice about going to work, &c.—only we don't show them where or how to go—because our hearts are so easily touched by the appearance of misery that we can't, we really can't resist; that is, it is a great deal easier to help people to homilies and three cent pieces, than follow them to their homes and see into the truth of their story, and put them in a way to help themselves. We show the most laudable alacrity in assisting all benevolent enterprises, and get ourselves to preside at meetings held to organize them, with the greatest enthusiasm.

We turn up our eyes with edifying conscientiousness at the idea of shaving ten per cent. from the wages of the poor, and then again complacently and prick up our ears at the idea of a ground rent or mortgage at the same discount; because, "you see, that is a different thing; it is a—it is that is, you know—there is a difference—when you take real estate security, you—a—a—it is—so, you see—a—": to be sure; not a doubt of it; nothing could be clearer!

Then we write elaborate art criticisms, profusely illustrated (by the aid of a glossary with learned technicalities—such as breadth, tone, warmth, chiaro-scuro, perspective, lights, tints, foreground, middle distance, and background, and interested with a great deal of cant about handling, style, execution, composition, idealism, lovely bits of distance, &c., of the meaning of which we have as accurate perception as school boys, with imperfectly developed mathematical organs, have of what the dreaded Pons Asinorum is all about when they have got through saying it "off the book."

We get up a reputation as *litterateurs*, (we hate using foreign words in English writing, but no word now expresses the idea so well,) based on regard to books, upon the advice of Dean Swift—"was't it"—a friend, with regard to the members of the English Peerage—"learn their names and then brag of their acquaintance;" and we descend upon their merits, and discourse dreary platitudes upon their want of plot, their lack of originality, their inartistic denouement, or, on the other hand, their "independent noble tone," their free, untrammelled expression of thought, their "entrancing pictures of the beautiful," the "truthful delineation of the writer's style," (we copy this last, verbatim, from a newspaper criticism, which is a "truthful delineation" of style) with a gravity and profundity that almost deludes ourselves into the idea that we are talking sense.

We have great many other shams among us; grave, thoughtful men, who never say anything because they never have anything to say; their gravity and thoughtfulness being of the owl kind, requiring no brains, but only a discreet silence, backed by a solemn countenance to give them effect; dignified men, whose dignity consists in looking pompous and profound, and long-winded words, with a sonorous wobble of voice, calculated to produce a feeling of respectful awe in their hearers—celebrated writers, whose names nobody ever saw or heard, until they were placarded in big letters on all the blank walls, and announced with a flourish in the flash newspapers, (which themselves should take a high rank in the list of shams, if we can't stop to deal with them now,) for which they get up blood and thunder stories by the yard, mixing sixteenth century grandiosity, and our own dear nineteenth century "Jockeying" and "sawdust" words in the most unbecoming manner conceivable. There is a host, besides, which we have neither time nor space even to enumerate. Altogether, when we think how little of anything genuine we see or hear—of how few things we can say—"this is itself and isn't something else"—of how we are constantly trying to throw dust into our neighbor's eyes conscious all the while that they are trying the same thing with us, the wonder is that we can ever look each other in the face without laughing.

Likeness of the New Born and the Dead.

Lavater, in his "Physiognomy," makes the following curious remarks: "I have had occasion to observe some infants, immediately after their births, and have found an astonishing resemblance between their profile and that of their father. A few days after, this resemblance must entirely disappear, and the influence of the air and food, and probably the change of posture, have so altered the design of the face, that you could have believed it a different individual. I afterwards saw two of these children die, the one at six weeks and the other at four years of age—and about twelve hours after their death they completely recovered the profile which had struck me so much at their birth; only the profile of the dead child was, as might be expected, more strongly marked, and more terse than that of the living. On the third day, the resemblance began to disappear. I knew a man of fifty years, and another of seventy, both of whom, when alive, appeared to have no manner of resemblance to their children, and whose physiognomies belonged, if I may so express myself, to two classes totally different. Two days after their death, the profile of one became perfectly conformed to that of his eldest son, and the image of the other father might be traced in the third of his sons. The likeness was quite as distinctly marked as that of the children who, immediately after their death, brought to my inspection the physiognomies which they had at their birth."

Henry Clay's Programme.

ASHLAND, SEPTEMBER 13, 1842.

DEAR SIR: I received your favor communicating the purposes and views of the young men of Philadelphia, and I take pleasure, in compliance with your request, in stating some of the principal objects which I should engage the common desire and common exertions of the Whig party to bring about in the Government of the United States. These are:

1st. A sound national currency, regulated by the will and authority of the nation.

2d. An adequate revenue, with fair protection to American industry.

3d. Just restraints on Executive power, embracing a further restriction on the Executive veto.

4th. A faithful administration of the public domain, with an equitable distribution of the proceeds of the sales of it among all the States.

5th. An honest and economical administration of the General Government, leaving public officers perfect freedom of thought and of the right of suffrage, but with suitable restraints against improper influences in elections.

As a member of the Constitution limiting the incumbent of the Presidential chair to a single term.

These objects obtained, I think we should cease to be afflicted with bad administration of the Government. I am, respectfully, your friend, H. CLAY.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The following letter, read by Mr. Henry Shackelford, at the Discussion at King George Court House, is necessary to a full understanding of the present political canvass in this District; and an insertion of it in the Gazette, is respectfully asked by

SEVERAL VOTERS.

Letter from John Minor Botts.

RICHMOND, March 17th, 1859.

HENRY SHACKELFORD.

Dear Sir:—I was greatly surprised at the contents of your letter received to-day. You say Gov. Smith has a letter from Mr. John Williams, a clerk in one of the departments in Washington, in which it is stated, that he was present and heard me in 1855

invite Mr. Smith to take the field against Know Nothingism, and be elected, and that Mr. Smith declined it on the ground that he would not run against the nominee of his own party; and that this letter has been read by Mr. Smith in his public addresses, and you ask me to state whether such or any similar conversation has occurred between Mr. Smith and myself.

To all of which I answer No, emphatically No. Such an idea never entered my head as I myself or the Know Nothing party, as it was then called, could be induced to support Mr. Smith in the position he occupied, for they would never have thought of going out of their own organization for a candidate for any political office, as long as they could have found a suitable candidate in it—the nomination of Mr. Patton as Attorney General being excused only on the ground that the law office of the Government should not be held to be a political office.

I might stop here, but as a witness has been introduced in advance of any denial on my part before the necessity for proof had arisen, which is an unusual proceeding, I feel bound to sustain my own assertion by circumstances that must put the question beyond doubt.

In the first place I might enquire, who is Mr. John Williams? I know of no such person in Washington, and never have been in his company as far as my knowledge extends; but I am introduced to so many persons that an introduction to this gentleman may have escaped my recollection, but he is certainly laboring under some strange delusion. I have no recollection of ever having held a conversation with Gov. Smith on the subject of the election, from the time Mr. Wise received the nomination to the present hour.

I recollect very well that Mr. Walker, of this city, then and now employed in the Executive office, during the winter of '54-'55, placed a letter in my hands from Gov. Smith, which he asked me to take home with me to read, and give him my views upon it when we next met.—In that letter there was not only a willingness, but a desire expressed, for the nomination—it contained an argument to show that it would be bad policy for the Know Nothing party to require him to become a member of the order, as that would deprive him of Democratic votes—it should be enough for them to know that he sympathized with them in their purposes, and agreed with them in principles. This was the substance of the letter left with me for several days, and signed "William Smith," and which I was told was from "Extra Billy," as Mr. Walker termed him. I understand Gov. Smith denies having written any such letter. Of course, I cannot, and do not, say he did. It may have been a forgery. Mr. Walker and myself, as well as others, may have been induced to suppose that such a letter, purporting to have been written by a "William Smith," was placed in my hands, and seen by many others, there can be no doubt. Since receiving your letter, I called on Mr. Walker to enquire what had become of that letter, and how he came to have it. He said that he had first written to Mr. Smith, on his own responsibility, suggesting to him that he should run as the Know Nothing candidate; that he received a letter in reply, stating that he (Mr. Smith) did not like to answer such a letter to a stranger, but invited him (Walker) to meet him in Fredericksburg. Walker says he then wrote Smith that he had probably mistaken his position, that he was a humble and obscure man, whose calling and influence would not justify the mention invited, and it was in reply to that letter that the one referred to was received. In regard to the disposition of the letter, he said that on some subsequent occasion he handed the letter to Mr. Robert Hughes, the then editor of the Examiner, that it might be returned to Mr. Smith, who was then in this city, and that he did so. Mr. Hughes, therefore, is now the proper person to be applied to for further information respecting the letter.

But when I saw Mr. Walker again he warmly urged the movement he had contemplated, which was done in good faith on his part. I said to him, as he recollects distinctly, that no man could get the Know Nothing vote, who was not a member of the order, and that if he were a member he could not be elected, and that no other democrat could, for the reason that it was necessary to have the Whig vote outside of the order to give us an election, which could not be obtained by any decided democrat, especially by Mr. Smith, whose violence towards them had rendered him almost as obnoxious to the party as Mr. Wise; and that as between these two, the Whig vote would either remain neutral, or be divided, and as the Democratic vote was secured to Mr. Wise by his nomination, and would outvote any vote the Know Nothing party could give, the nomination of Mr. Smith would necessarily secure Mr. Wise's election.

This was my argument from beginning to end, as will be seen by an extract of a letter written to Mr. Nathaniel B. Meade, of Clarke county, in December, 1854, and which was read by me in 1856, and constitutes a part of my African Church record of that year. I enclose that extract, together with a portion in which it was used, and in that letter it will be found that even at that early day I was in favor of two contending Whigs, and Know Nothing, that they might unite on the same candidate for Governor, and thus ensure his election. "Let them," I said, "all be Whigs if you choose, but they must be Whigs at the same time."

How then was it possible for me to have invited Gov. Smith to become a candidate, with an assurance that he could get the Know Nothing vote?

But there is another circumstance even stronger than this, and that was that from the first, it was in contemplation by my friends to present my own name to the consideration of the Convention, for which they had obtained from me an expression of willingness to accept the nomination and canvass the State with Mr. Wise, and it was not until within a day or two before the meeting of the convention in Winchester, that I ascertained (to use a common phrase) that the Whigs had all been set, and then wrote a letter declining to have my name brought before the convention, requesting my immediate friends to withdraw it if presented.—How then, I ask it again, was it possible that I could have invited Mr. Smith to run against Mr. Wise with an assurance that he could get the Know Nothing vote and be elected?

It is all a mistake. I do not know how it has arisen